

Workshop Goals

- To provide accurate information to help you to navigate the system of services available to you.
- To provide an opportunity for you to network with other parents with the possibility of providing ongoing support to one another.



Employee Consultation Service

Department of State



The mission of the Employee
Consultation Service is to provide
professional and confidential crisis
intervention, brief counseling, and
referral services for Foreign and
Civil Service employees of State and
USAID.





ECS SERVICES

- EAP
- MEDICAL CLEARANCES FOR CHILDREN & ADOLESCENTS
- FAC PROGRAM
- COMPASSIONATECURTAILMENTS



EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SERVICES

- CONFIDENTIAL SHORT TERM COUNSELING SERVICES:psychosocial assessment and referral; short term individual, relationship, family and group counseling.
- CONSULTATION WITH SUPERVISORS
- AGENCY REFERRAL SERVICE





MEDICAL CLEARANCES FOR CHILDREN/ADOLESCENTS

SPECIAL EDUCATION ALLOWANCES

MEDICAL CLEARANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

POST APPROVALS





FAC SUPPORT

CONSULTATION TO MH DIRECTOR FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

- COORDINATE ASSISTANCE WITH POST RMO, RMO/P, RSO AND DCM.
- * ASSESSMENTS / REFERRAL FOR FOLLOW-UP ASSISTANCE





UT EMPLOYEE AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE

INDIVIDUAL, COUPLES COUNSELING

SUPPORT GROUPS

MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION





MED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

- **COMPASSIONATE CURTAILMENTS**
 - **1) 5-8 WAIVERS**
 - 2) Breaks, Extensions
 - 3) LWOP (non-routine requests)





Family

Financial

Psychosocial Functioning





Compassionate Curtailments

Does Not Support

designation indicating **no** compassionate or related reason for granting the request in any of the psychosocial categories.

Supports

designation indicating the presence of mild compassionate reasons for supporting the request.

Strongly Supports

designation indicating the presence of compelling psychosocial factors to strongly support the employee's request.





"Let's Get Started"

- Your child presents you with a learning or behavioral challenge.
- 1. Difficulty understanding school work: reading, math etc.
- 2. Disruptive Class room behavior.
- 3. Appears sad or anxious.
- 4. Behavior is different from other children.
- 5. Developmental Concerns.





IDEA

Individuals With Disabilities Education Act. This act requires that schools provide necessary learning aids, testing modifications and other educational accommodations to children with learning disabilities. Children whose learning is hampered by physical or other psychological disabilities, may qualify.



What to DO?

Contact your child's teachers and secure documentation from them.

- Contact your Post Health Unit
- Contact ECS Directly and Soon!





ECS

- ECS you will be assigned to a social worker who covers your region.
- Your social worker will review current school and relevant information.
- Approve Special Needs Education Allowance
- Assist with Assessment arrangements.
- Discuss resources at Post to meet the needs.
- Provide Post Approval/Med Clearance.





Special Needs Education Allowance SNEA

- Department of State Standardized Regulation (DSSR 276.8)
- Employee Consultation Service (ECS) approves the Allowance initially and annually.
- 1. Benefit is available from birth to age 21.
- Attendance may be Away from Post when needed services are not available at Post.



AT-Post Reimbursement

- \$26,800 Per School Year (per child)
- Tuition is deducted from this allowance.
- Must be renewed annually with statement of need supported by school reports.
- Expenses incurred in one year cannot be disbursed out of next years allowance.
- Authorization is valid from 1 Sept thru 31 August of the following year.
- 50% is authorized when justified.





Away From Post Reimbursement

- \$55, 350 Rate
- 50% Differential is authorized when justified
- Typically Therapeutic Boarding Schools
- Renewed each year
- Must have justification
- 12-18 months is usual stay





Assessments

- Psycho-educational, Speech, OT, PT, Child Psychiatry
- Assessments are approved and coordinated through ECS
- Parents pay initial costs and are reimbursed when they present paid receipts to the Post FMO





Assessment Location

- Determined by proximity to appropriate testing facility: Local resources / US
- Prior ECS approval is necessary
- Assessments may be completed during home leave.
- Assessments are not approved when family is posing to US within a few months.



"\$\$\$ Money Matters \$\$\$"

- * Funding for the SNEA is resourced through the Post Budget
- Parents are required to pay upfront costs for their child's services and then are reimbursed by the Post FMO
- Amounts exceeding the limits of the allowances are reviewed by ECS and Allowances.



Post Approval – Med Clearance

- Parent Role
- 1. Contact ECS with their bid list and Send/Fax Reports to ECS to review their child's academic needs.
- 2. Contact Schools at Posts where you are bidding for confirmation of the school's ability to meet your child's academic needs.
- 3. Keep ECS informed of changes in Bid List.



Post Approval – Med Clearance

- ECS Role
- 1. Discuss Med Clear. Process with parents.
- 2. Review the Medical/Academic Record.
- 3. Review Post Capabilities and ECS database.
- 4. Identify Needed Resources at Post with parents necessary for approval.
- 5. Recommend Post Approvals/Med Clearance.



Medical Clearance Recommendations

- 1: World Wide Availability
- 2: Limited Overseas Availability
- 5: Not Approved for Overseas
- 6: Child may visit Post
- 7: Clearance is Pending
- 8: No Clearance





PITFALLS

- **WAITING**
- * NOT FORWARDING CURRENT SCHOOL INFORMATION
- FEAR





Children with Special Ed Needs

- Children in the FS with special education needs – 1039 or 11.5%
- Number of children in the Foreign Service – 9000.
- Western Hemisphere, Europe, Asia, Africa, Middle East





Top Posts – Children with Special Needs

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28
27
25
22
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21
17
16
16





Posts Continued:

The Hague	15
Nairobi	15
London	14
Santo Domingo	14
Toronto	14
* Tel Aviv	13
Paris	11
Amman	10
New Dehli	10





Post Continued:

- Moscow, Baghdad, Tokyo, Nassau,Bangkok9
- Copphenhagen, Accra, Singapore Berlin,8
- Dakar, Dhaka, Jerusalem, Kingston,7





Posts Continued:

- SanSalvador, Lusaka, Buenos Aires, Brasilia, Warsaw,
 Jakarta, Guatemala
- Ottawa, Lisbon, Madrid, Maputo, Vancover, San Jose,
 Stockholm, Kuala Lumpur
- Quito, Monterrey, Taipei, Dubai, Rabat, Seoul,
 Caracas, Nicosia, Hong Kong, Addis Ababa, Lilongwe,
 Mumbai, Abuja, Hamburg





MED/ECS Initiatives

- Regional Social Worker
- Updated Website
- New Bidding Tool for Officers





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COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

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